

REMARKS

1. Information Disclosure Statement

The Office Action indicates that the patents cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 8, 2001, were not considered because of failure to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2). The nature of the failure is unclear from the Office Action. If the submitted copies are illegible, Applicants will submit clear copies. Applicants believe that the references were timely and properly submitted, and request that they be considered. If the Examiner refuses to consider the references, Applicants request a specific explanation of the Examiner's reason why the IDS fails to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2).

With reference to the Examiner's inquiry concerning the Chevalier et al reference, the month of the reference is September.

2. Figures

The figures have been amended by deletion of the text after the figure labels. The text deleted from the figures has been added to the specification at page 4. Applicants believe the figures as amended are now acceptable.

3. Claims

Claims 22-32 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the Section 112 objections and to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims

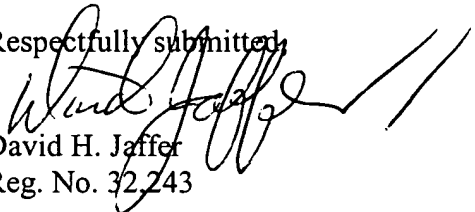
22-28 remain after cancellation of claims 9-21 and 29-32 (claims 29-32 are redundant of claims 22-25).

The methods of amended independent claims 22, 25, and 26 relate to curing compositions that include both a silicon component and a ring strained olefinic group. The claims have been amended to clarify that these compositions are then cured as recited in claims 22, 25, and 26, respectively. Applicants believe that claims 22, 25, and 26 now allowable, as they have been amended to overcome the Section 112 objections and include the necessary limitations. Claims 23-24 and 27-28 are dependent on amended claims 22 and 26, respectively, and are also believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the remaining claims in response to the objections raised in the Office Action, and believe the claims are now in condition for allowance. If any further questions should arise prior to a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

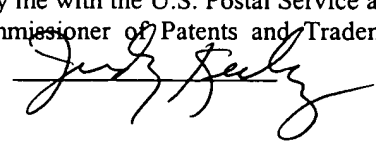

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Date: August 27, 2002

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL MAILING

I, Judy Keeley, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited by me with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: BOX RESPONSES - FEE, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 27, 2002.



APPENDIX

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace page 4, line 24, to page 4, line 27 with the following:

FIG. 2 shows a hydrosilation method for attaching a ROMP group (only monohydrosilation is shown; polyhydrosilations can also be carried out);


FIG. 3 shows  silation method for attaching a ROMP group (monosilation shown; polysilations can also be carried out);

FIG. 4 shows representative examples of non-nanostructured oligomeric siloxane and silsesquioxane systems;

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings by substituting the enclosed amended drawings for the original drawings.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 9-21 and 29-32.

1 22. (Once amended) A method of curing a [the] first composition [of the process of claim 9,]
2 selected from the group consisting of silane, siloxane, silsesquioxane, POSS, silicate, and POS,
3 each bearing at least one strained ring olefin, wherein the first composition is a monomer, a
4 polymer, or an oligomer, comprising:

5 reacting the first [second] composition with effective amounts of a mixture of (a) at least
6 one metal-based catalyst selected from the group consisting of carbenes, halides, phosphates,
7 acetates, and salts of [comprising] molybdenum, tungsten, and ruthenium [carbenes, halides,
8 phosphates, and acetates,] and (b) at least one cocatalyst selected from the group consisting of
9 [comprising] organoaluminum halides and aluminum halides.

1 25. (Once amended) A method of curing a [the] first composition [of the process of claim 9,]
2 selected from the group consisting of silane, siloxane, silsesquioxane, POSS, silicate, and POS,
3 each bearing at least one strained ring olefin, wherein the first composition is a monomer, a
4 polymer, or an oligomer, comprising:

5 reacting the first [second] composition with effective amounts of at least one difunctional
6 or polyfunctional silane [silanes] in the presence of effective amounts of a catalyst selected from
7 the group consisting of [comprising] palladium and platinum (a) halides, (b) olefin complexes, or
8 (c) carbon supported versions. [halides, platinum halides, olefin complexes, and the carbon
9 supported versions thereof.]

1 26. (Once amended) A method of curing a [the] first composition [of the process of claim 10,]
2 selected from the group consisting of silane, siloxane, silsesquioxane, POSS, silicate, and POS,
3 each bearing at least one strained ring olefin, wherein the first composition is a monomer, a
4 polymer, or an oligomer, comprising:
5 reacting the first [second] composition with effective amounts of a vulcanizing agent
6 selected from the group consisting of [comprising] organoperoxides, persulfides, and sulfur.